Dear Admiral Stokes:


NLM agrees with ICCVAM's recommendations about the rLLNA, and with the recommended LLNA test method performance standards. The ICCVAM evaluation process that led to these recommendations included review by an independent scientific peer review panel, and comments from the public and the federally chartered Scientific Advisory Committee on Alternative Toxicological Methods (SACATM).

As you know, we do not have any regulatory or testing authority that would need to be in compliance with these recommendations. We do, however, heartily endorse the recommendations and the continued work to promote and encourage the development and use of alternative test methods that are found to be effective and applicable.

We will include access to this information via ALTBIB, our NLM database on "Alternatives to the Use of Live Vertebrates in Biomedical Research and Testing" (http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/altbib.html). This database provides bibliographic references on many issues related to animal testing, and uses pre-formulated strategies to help users find literature citations in PubMed. ALTBIB also provides links to ICCVAM and other useful sources of information related to alternatives to animal testing.
We are happy to participate in the important efforts of the ICCVAM, and look forward to continuing to serve on this committee as it works to facilitate the evaluation and adoption of test methods that provide improved animal welfare as while protecting human health and the environment.

Yours truly,

/\s/

Dr. Donald A.B. Lindberg